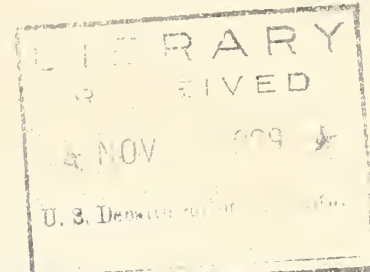


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THANKSGIVING MESSAGE TO 4-H CLUB MEMBERS

A radio talk by Dr. C. B. Smith, Office of Extension Service, delivered through Station WRC and 36 other stations associated with the National Broadcasting Company, Saturday, November 2, 1929.

November is the special season of thanksgiving on the farm. The days are still and sunshiny. The nights are cool and frosty. There is a tang in the air. The fields are brown. The crops are gathered into the barn and granary. The cellar is full of vegetables and fruit. In the attic or corn house there are kegs or bags of pecans, walnuts and hickory nuts. The cotton has all been gathered and ginned. The corn is shucked and in the crib or the shocks stand in long rows in the field or in groups about the barnyard for the protection and feeding of the stock. Everything is in readiness for winter.

Since Pilgrim days we have taken this month and set aside a day within it upon which to give thanks to the Creator for our harvests and health and all the kindnesses Providence has shown us during the year.

With 4-H club boys and girls, it is Thanksgiving time too. The work of the season, for the most part, is over. The fairs have been held, our exhibits have been made, stories of our season's work have been written up, and our reports are all in. It is a glorious feeling. We are now in tune with the season and ready to give thanks for all the blessings of the year. And what accomplishments and rewards have been ours this past year!

We have grown to an army of over 700,000 members, with 65,000 leaders in addition. We have been organized by business men, educators, and statesmen as constituting a group worthy in purpose, high in ideals, and the forerunner of better things in agriculture.

We have had the honor of being spoken to by the first lady of the land, direct from the White House. A leading educator has spoken of 4-H club work as one of the soundest educational movements in America today.

This all gives us courage and thankfulness. We are thankful that each one of us can do a part of the world's work in our demonstrations, our community effort, through the carrying out of our club pledge. We are thankful that we are farm boys and girls and can live out where there are open fields and running streams, forests where wild things live, and we can be a part of all of these.

We are thankful that in our work we have the opportunity of meeting and consulting with the best farm men and women of the community, people who have worked and accomplished and given of their time to direct and help us. We are thankful for the encouragement given us by bankers and business men and educators. We are thankful for the chance to meet together as club members and to learn together and of each other. We are thankful for the opportunity of attending the county and district club camp, and learning how to live to-

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gether and work together, to cooperate and do things. We are thankful for the chance to spend a week at our State college of agriculture and walk its campus, sit in its classrooms, listen to its great teachers and get a vision of the bigger things in agriculture and the home and our own lives.

We are thankful for fathers and mothers that encourage us and let us take part in this great rural work, along with them. They have brought efficiency into farming and high standards and ideals into rural life. We are thankful for this great inheritance from them and that the task of carrying forward the torch and of building great homes on the farm and an outstanding country life falls to us. May we meet the challenge. May we carry on. May we meet the hopes of parents and of the nation and exemplify in high degree our club motto, to make the best still better.